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REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575
internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsitel@jsitel.com

June 20, 2014

Via Hand Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Accepted/Files

JUN 20 2014

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 11-42
2014 ETC Annual Report of Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp.
Study Area Code 381630**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp. ("Polar"), JSI files the attached confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules.¹ Polar seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information.² The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System. In addition, attached is a letter requesting confidential treatment under Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the initial section 54.202(a) Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan.³

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall
JSI Vice President
301-459-7590
jkuykendall@jsitel.com

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

No. of Copies rec'd 0+3
List ABCDE

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

² *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*, Protective Order, DA 12-1857 rel. Nov. 16, 2012 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459, 54.202(a).



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Federal Communications Commission
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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 11-42
2014 ETC Annual Report of Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp.
Study Area Code 381630
Request for Confidentiality**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

John Staurulakis, Inc. ("JSI"), on behalf of its client Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corp. (the "Company") hereby requests, pursuant to Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's rules,¹ withholding from public inspection certain information contained in an attachment to the above referenced reporting requirement. The Company provides the following in support of its request, numbered consistent with the subparagraphs of Section 0.459(b).²

1. The information for which the Company is seeking confidential treatment is an attachment to the Company's annual reporting information pursuant to Sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules ("Report").³
2. Rate-of-Return Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("ETCs") must file with the Commission an initial section 54.202(a) Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan ("Five-Year Plan") which is contained in the attachment to the 2014 Report.⁴
3. The information contained in attachment for which the Company seeks the withholding from public inspection is the entirety of data pertaining to the Company's Five-Year Plan provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment. Information of this nature is confidential commercial information routinely withheld from public inspection.

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459.

² 47 C.F.R. § 0.459(b)(1) through (9).

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

⁴ See *In the Matter of Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Order DA 14-591 (rel. May 1, 2014).

4. With respect to identifying the degree to which the subject attachment concerns a service that is subject to competition, the information is of a financial and competitive nature regarding the provision of telecommunications services. The Line 112 attachment contains competitively sensitive information related to proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance the Company's network.

In its *March 5, 2013 Order*, the FCC. The FCC specified that for rate-of-return carriers, the five-year plans "should describe the carrier's network improvement plan, which should provide greater visibility into current plans to extend broadband service to unserved locations in rate-of-return service territories."⁵ Accordingly, because the Company is a rate-of-return carrier, it must file a five-year service improvement plan which contains proprietary, competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network including the specific locations of customers as well as describe proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance of its network throughout its service area. Specifically, this information sets forth services provided by the Company over its existing network including specific locations of customers as well as planned network improvement and maintenance for the years 2015 through 2019 including project start and completion dates, population that will be impacted by the improvements and upgrades at the wire center level and projected capital costs associated with the improvements and upgrades and operating costs associated with maintaining the network including depreciation for investments that have already been made. As such, this information contains competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network as well as detailed plans at the wire center level for network upgrades and maintenance projected for the years 2015 through 2019.

5. With respect to identifying possible exposure to competitive harm, the information contained in the Line 112 attachment is information that is not customarily released to the public. This information is proprietary to the Company, is unique to the Company's serving territory and is only known to the Company and its authorized agents. If the Information is not protected, it would have economic value to potential competitors who would be able to target their marketing to specific customers. In a competitive telecommunications marketplace, this type of information is highly sensitive. If publicly disclosed, it would enable competitors to craft business plans that capitalize on their knowledge of the locations of the Company's customers which would place the Company at a competitive disadvantage.
6. With respect to steps the Company has taken to ensure against unauthorized disclosure of the information contained in the attachment, the Company is filing the attachment under seal. The Company uses the information contained in the Five-Year Plan to ensure that its customers continue to receive state-of-the-art high quality telecommunications and broadband services that the Company has

⁵ See *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket 10-90 *et al.*, Order, DA 13-332 (rel. Mar. 5, 2013) ("*March 5, 2013 Order*") at para 9 citing Section 54.202(a) (1) (ii).

been providing to them for many years as well as to satisfy mandatory reporting requirements and does not share the information for which protection is sought. The Company protects the secrecy of this information with a security protocol that ensures the information is not inadvertently disclosed or disseminated. Only directors, managers and employees with a direct need to know are authorized to access the information.

7. Any previous versions of this information are not publicly available.
8. Because the information is not routinely available, a need exists for maintaining the confidentiality of this information permanently.
9. Not applicable.

Based on the preceding, JSI respectfully requests on behalf of the Company that the Commission grant confidential treatment under Section 0.459 to Company's Five-Year Plan provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



John Kuykendall
JSI Vice President
301-459-7590
jkuykendall@jsitel.com

<010> Study Area Code 381630

<015> Study Area Name POLAR COMM MUT AID

<020> Program Year 2015

<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data Shari Planders

<035> Contact Telephone Number: 7012847221 ext. Number of the person identified in data line <030>

<039> Contact Email Address: aflanders@polartel.com Email of the person identified in data line <030>

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JUN 20 2014

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

<100> Service Quality Improvement Reporting	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<200> Outage Reporting (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<210> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -- check box if no outages to report		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<300> Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice) 0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<310> Detail on Attempts (voice)	(attach descriptive document)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<320> Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband) 0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<330> Detail on Attempts (broadband)	(attach descriptive document)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<400> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<410> Fixed 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<420> Mobile 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<430> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<440> Fixed 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<450> Mobile 0.0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<500> Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<510> 381630nd510.pdf	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<600> Functionality in Emergency Situations	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<610> 381630nd610.pdf	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<700> Company Price Offerings (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<710> Company Price Offerings (broadband)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<800> Operating Companies and Affiliates	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<900> Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)?	(if yes, complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1000> Voice Services Rate Comparability	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1010>	(attach descriptive document)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1100> Terrestrial Backhaul (Y/N)?	(if not, check to indicate certification)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1110>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1200> Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers	(complete attached worksheet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet

<2000> Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers	(check to indicate certification)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<2005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet			
<3000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<3005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	381630
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

<110> Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC? (yes / no) ☐ ☒

If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5

<111> year plan" filed with the FCC? (yes / no) ☐ ☐

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

381630nd112.pdf

Name of Attached Document

Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached documents(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

<113>	Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets	<input type="checkbox"/>
<114>	Report how much universal service (USF) support was received	<input type="checkbox"/>
<115>	How (USF) was used to improve service quality	<input type="checkbox"/>
<116>	How (USF) was used to improve service coverage	<input type="checkbox"/>
<117>	How (USF) was used to improve service capacity	<input type="checkbox"/>
<118>	Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(200) Service Outage Reporting (Voice)
Data Collection Form

EDC Form #819
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-2819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	381630
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

[illegible]

<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2014
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

[illegible]

~~See attached worksheet~~

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2
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[illegible]

<810>	Reporting Carrier	Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation
<811>	Holding Company	Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation
<812>	Operating Company	Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation

[illegible]

[REDACTED]

<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
-------	-----------------	--------------------

<020>	Program Year	2015
-------	--------------	------

<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
-------	---	----------------

<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
-------	---	-----------------

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> sflanders@polartel.com

--

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Name of Attached Document

Select
(Yes, No,
NA)

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<010>	Study Area Code	381630
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

<1120> Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G) ☐

<1130> Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G) ☐



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<010>	Study Area Code	381630
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP <http://www.polarcomm.com/resources/phone-assistance-program/>

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, ☒
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, ☒
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. ☒

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<010>	Study Area Code	381630
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flenders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflenders@polartel.com

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2010> 2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)}
- <2011> 3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2)}

☐
☐

Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification {47 CFR § 54.312(a)}

- <2012> 2013 Frozen Support Certification
- <2013> 2014 Frozen Support Certification
- <2014> 2015 Frozen Support Certification
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification

☐
☐
☐
☐

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}

- <2016> Certification Support Used to Build Broadband

☐

Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}

- <2017> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification
- <2018> 5th year Broadband Service Certification
- <2019> Interim Progress Certification
- <2020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

☐
☐
☐
☐

- <2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

<010> Study Area Code	381630
<015> Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3010) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan
Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i))

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3011) Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year. ☐

(3012) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii))

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2))

(Yes/No)

☒ Yes ☒ No

(3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

(Yes/No)

☒ Yes ☒ No

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

(3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)

☒

(3016) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☒

(3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation

381630nd3017.pdf

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

(Yes/No)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications ☐

(3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☐

(3021) Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit. ☐

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers, ☐

(3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant ☐

(3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification. ☐

(3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows ☐

(3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION



<010>	Study Area Code	381630
<015>	Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

<010> Study Area Code	381630
<015> Study Area Name	POLAR COMM MUT AID
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Shari Flanders
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7012847221 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	sflanders@polartel.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>John Staurulakis, Inc.</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	John Staurulakis, Inc.
Name of Reporting Carrier:	POLAR COMM MUT AID
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/18/2014
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	David Dunning
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	GM/CEO
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	7012847221 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	381630 Filing Due Date for this form: 06/30/2014
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	POLAR COMM MUT AID
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	John Staurulakis, Inc.
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/18/2014
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Cassandra Heyne
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Consultant
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	3014597590 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	381630 Filing Due Date for this form: 06/30/2014
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

POLAR COMMUNICATIONS MUTAL AID CORP. (SAC 381630)

ATTACHMENT - LINE 112

FIVE YEAR SERVICE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY

**Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation's Demonstration of Compliance
with Applicable Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules**

In establishing this certification in its *2005 ETC Order*,¹ the FCC found that an ETC must make "a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers."² The Commission found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA's Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement" and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis.³ In this context, the FCC stated, "to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement."⁴

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation ("Company") hereby certifies that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules. The Company is subject to consumer protection obligations under federal law and, to a limited extent under North Dakota state law as a telecommunications carrier subject to North Dakota Public Service Commission regulation. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) adherence to state requirements that the Company complies with consumer protection and service quality standards pursuant to North Dakota Administrative Code Article 69, including customer requests for lowest price service alternatives (69-09-05-01), discontinuance of

¹ *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) ("*2005 ETC Order*").

² *Id.* at para. 28.

³ *Id.* The FCC noted that under the CTIA Consumer Code, wireless carriers agree to: "(1) disclose rates and terms of service to customers; (2) make available maps showing where service is generally available; (3) provide contract terms to customers and confirm changes in service; (4) allow a trial period for new service; (5) provide specific disclosures in advertising; (6) separately identify carrier charges from taxes on billing statements; (7) provide customers the right to terminate service for changes to contract terms; (8) provide ready access to customer service; (9) promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies; and (10) abide by policies for protection of consumer privacy." *Id.* at n. 71.

⁴ *Id.* at n. 72.

telecommunications services (69-09-05-02), deposits and guarantees (69-09-05-03); (2) truth-in-billing requirements, and (3) CPNI, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

The Company also provides service in Minnesota and is subject to consumer protection obligations under Minnesota state law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) filing a Local Exchange Tariff pursuant to the requirements of Minnesota Public Utility Commission which disclose rates, terms and conditions of service to customers; (2) adherence to state consumer protection and service quality requirements governing telephone providers which require compliance with the Minnesota Administrative Rules listed below; (3) truth-in-billing requirements; and (4) CPNI, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

Minnesota Administrative Rules:

RECORDS AND REPORTS

7810.0400 RETENTION OF RECORDS.
7810.0500 DATA TO BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION.
7810.0600 REPORT TO COMMISSION ON SERVICE DISRUPTION.
7810.0900 LOCATION OF RECORDS.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

7810.1000 INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMER AND PUBLIC.
7810.1100 COMPLAINT PROCEDURES.
7810.1200 RECORD OF COMPLAINT.

CUSTOMER BILLING; DEPOSIT AND GUARANTEE REQUIREMENTS

7810.1400 CUSTOMER BILLING.
7810.1500 DEPOSIT AND GUARANTEE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.1600 DEPOSIT.
7810.1700 GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT.

DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE; SERVICE DELAY

7810.1800 PERMISSIBLE SERVICE DISCONNECTIONS WITH NOTICE.
7810.1900 PERMISSIBLE SERVICE DISCONNECTIONS WITHOUT SERVICE.
7810.2000 NONPERMISSIBLE REASONS TO DISCONNECT SERVICE.

7810.2100 MANNER OF DISCONNECTION.
7810.2200 RECONNECTION OF SERVICE.
7810.2300 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.2400 BILL DISPUTES.
7810.2500 ESCROW PAYMENTS.
7810.2600 WAIVING RIGHT TO DISCONNECT; EMERGENCY STATUS.
7810.2800 DELAY IN INITIAL SERVICE OR UPGRADE.

DIRECTORIES

7810.2900 CONTENT OF DIRECTORIES.
7810.3000 MAINTENANCE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT.
7810.3100 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.

ENGINEERING

7810.3200 CONSTRUCTION OF TELEPHONE PLANT.
7810.3300 MAINTENANCE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT.
7810.3900 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.

INSPECTIONS, TESTS, SERVICE REQUIRMENTS

7810.4100 ACCESS TO TEST FACILITIES.
7810.4300 ACCURANCE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.4900 ADEQUACY OF SERVICE.
7810.5000 UTILITY OBLIGATIONS.
7810.5100 TELEPHONE OPERATORS.
7810.5200 ANSWERING TIME.
7810.5300 DIAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.
7810.5400 INTEROFFICE TRUNKS.
7810.5500 TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS.
7810.5800 INTERRUPTIONS OF SERVICE.
7810.5900 CUTOMER TROUBLE REPORTS.
7810.6000 PROTECTIVE MEASURES.
7810.6100 SAFETY PROGRAM.

The Company is subject to consumer protection obligations for broadband services under federal law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: public disclosure of accurate information regarding network management practices, performance, and commercial terms of broadband internet access services; as a means of providing sufficient information for consumers to make informed choices regarding use of such

services, and for content, application, service and device providers to develop, market, and maintain internet offerings as specified in F.C.C. 47 C.F.R. Part 8 §8.3.

**Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation's Demonstration of Ability to
Function in Emergency Situations**

Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation ("Company") hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in §54.202(a)(2)¹ and North Dakota Administrative Code 69-09-05-12. The Company's voice and broadband network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2). The Company can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations will also allow the Company to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require.

Specifically, each central office building is supplied with standby generators and battery back-up that enable the central office to keep running until power is restored so long as fuel is available, or until system changes are made to reroute traffic. The Company's central office can maintain 8 hours, plus or minus 15 percent, of battery reserve rated for peak traffic load requirements, and a permanent auxiliary power unit is installed or a mobile power source is available which can be delivered and connected within four hours. The Company has battery backup at all office locations and in its electronic equipment sites capable of running for a minimum of 8 hours, plus or minus 15

¹ Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to "demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations."

percent. Length of run time is determined by the equipment serving the area and the number of customers working out of the equipment. Generators are installed at all Central Office locations. They will continue to run as long as the Company has access to fuel. The Company tests the batteries at least once per year.

The Company also provides service in Minnesota. Pursuant to Minnesota Administrative Rule 7810.3900, "Emergency Operations," the Company has established reasonable provisions to meet emergencies resulting from failures of lighting or power service, sudden and prolonged increases in traffic, illness of operators or from fire, storm, or acts of God including provisions for emergency power that meet or exceed the rule requirement to provide:

- A minimum of four hours of battery service in each central office.
- A permanently installed power unit in exchanges exceeding 5,000 lines.
- Mobile power units that can be delivered on short notice and which can be readily connected in offices without installed emergency power facilities.

The Company has informed employees as to the procedures to be followed, including reasonable rerouting of traffic around damaged facilities and the deployment of emergency power in the event of emergency in order to prevent or mitigate interruption or impairment of telecommunications service.